

FEBRUARY 23, 2004

SCHAKOWSKY CALLS ON PRESIDENT BUSH TO IMMEDIATELY FIRE EDUCATION SECRETARY PAIGE

PAIGE CALLED NEA A "TERRORIST ORGANIZATION"

CHICAGO, IL - U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), a Chief Deputy Whip, issued the following statement in reaction to Secretary Rod Paige calling the National Education Association a "terrorist organization." Below is Schakowsky's statement:

"President Bush must fire Secretary Paige and replace him with someone who can tell the difference between a teacher and a terrorist. On his way out of town, Secretary Paige owes the teachers, students, and parents an apology."

"Every day Paige continues to serve as the top educator is an insult to the millions of teachers who have dedicated their lives to students across the country."

"It's time for President Bush to leave Secretary Paige behind."